

is more daring and enters with less hesitation than at other times, on important undertakings.

The feelings of the public are now more actively enlisted in behalf of the class to be benefitted by the scheme herein proposed than they ever will be again; and the good and patriotic have golden opportunities which may not again return.

This is the seed time for the friends and the enemies of human progress—it is one of these formative periods when the destiny of centuries is fixed by the action of hours.

People of North Carolina, of this glorious land, so long the abode of a free, virtuous and happy community, I appeal to you in behalf of your own best interests and in the name of that posterity whom you would have to bless your memory! This is a day of trial in more senses than one: our moral manhood is now subjected to tests that will prove our true character before the world and for all coming time.

The legions of the northern tyrant are not the only enemies to our peace and liberties: our independence is but half secured when we are delivered from external foes.

Let us, with humble trust in God, grasp the future with that forecasting statesmanship which characterized the men of '76—let us be united among ourselves, and let us remove every real cause for intestine dissensions—let us be just to those gallant and devoted men who are contributing their all to the country's cause, and let us demonstrate to the world the slanderous character of those charges which arraign us as a people of inferior civilization.

Our duty, our domestic peace and security, our greatness and prosperity, our honor and glory all lie in one direction; and we are called on by every motive which can touch our pride, our sympathies and our christian principle to go forward in the work herein suggested.

It has been said that the first monument reared to the heroes of this revolution, should be a lofty shaft of spotless marble to the memory of the nameless dead who fill the unknown graves of our battle fields: a more glorious tribute to